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A need for Pride
Understanding the history of Pride in the Highlands
on page 2

Unwelcome guests
How invasive species can take over
on page 8

Spotlight on SIRCH
Check out the newest corner of County Life
on page 15

Music in the Park, presented by the Rotary Club of Halliburton, has been going strong this summer on Tuesday evenings in Head Lake Park. Pictured, a past performer lights up the stage. /FILE

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County Pride

CHRISTINE CARR
Pride in the Highlands

"Why do you need Pride?" "You already have rights, why do you still need to celebrate?" "Can't you just keep it behind closed doors?"

As a person who is heavily involved in the Pride scene in Haliburton Highlands, both as a member of the Pride in the Highlands Committee and as someone who is a local member of the queer community, these are questions I hear a lot. In a world where queer people can marry, in a world where you can't get fired for being queer, why do we still need to, in other people's words, shove it in their faces?

The short answer is because queer people live an experience that is, in fact, different from others. Because queer people have to second guess every pronoun they use when referring to their partner, every reference to a relationship, in case they are talking to people who do not respect their differences. Because we still live in a place where Pride flags get stolen and people get verbally harassed for opening a business and being gay at the same time.

This is why organizations such as Pride in the Highlands exist. To promote love rather than hate, to promote safe spaces, and to help work with everyone in the county to create a place where people can live, open businesses, and be themselves without fear. The unfortunate part is we still are not there - but we are getting closer.

Pride in the Highlands recently changed their name from their original name of Minden Pride. This decision was made with a lot of thought and reflections, as the name Minden Pride reflected a strong history of activism and pride in the county. It reflected the respect held towards the Township of Minden Hills for being the first township to open its arms to the diversity within. And it reflected the original founders of the committee, who put themselves forward to work together to create a safe space. Though they faced much love at times from the community, they also faced, and continue to face, disheartening amounts of hate. However, the organization reflects not only the townships, but the whole County and everyone within.

Organizations such as Pride in the Highlands were created to fight for every individual's rights to a safe space to live and to help our community create safer spaces across the County. There are many such amazing organizations and individuals working to make our county a safer space and we would not be where we are today without them. As we head towards Pride in the Highland's annual Pride week, I want people to consider why we still have it. Why we still need to celebrate Pride.

There is a famous saying: the first Pride was a riot. Pride is not something created to make people uncomfortable or to "shove it in their faces." Pride was created to show everyone that they have a space, regardless of their gender identity, sexuality, or where they fall in the 2SLGBTQIA+ spectrum. It is to show youth that they have a future worth living for in Haliburton County. That they can be themselves and exist as themselves in this area. It is a place where adults can relax and not have to feel the pressure of questioning if they can be open about themselves. It is a place where allies can gather and have fun and show the acceptance the community can offer.

If you do not like Pride, then you are welcome to enjoy everything else the County has to offer. You can use the time to enjoy being open and being yourself in our restaurants, beaches, stores, hiking trails, and all of the great spaces around the county. If you do appreciate Pride and what it stands for, I cannot wait to see you at Pride week in August. Stop by and say hi and help us show that Haliburton County is not the hate and vitriol that makes the news, but the love and acceptance that we choose to promote.

> *"This is why organizations such as Pride in the Highlands exist. To promote love rather than hate ..."*
>
> — Christine Carr

/submitted

CountyLife

The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:

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Todd's Independent *

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For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in County Life please contact Melissa Armstrong at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

I'm doing the thing ...

DEB REED
Wind in the Attic

… that folk do when they reconnect with each other. As we used to, three longtime friends went away for a few days to catch up and reminisce. We each have our independent routines, but our chatty evening reunion after a long day's drive kept us energized way beyond typical personal bed-times. We soon reached that breathless ugly-laugh level, as true friends do, and resumed our decades-old familiarity. We were definitely our original selves before first breakfast.

Since we'd all been career, study, social and travel companions, we under-stood each other rather well. One of us had rented a marvellous cottage atop Canadian Shield near Dorset, Ontario. No TV or other external entertainment materialized that evening. Instead, we tried a random nugget of a classic group game which we'd never played togeth-er, but one of us had tried with others:

Two truths and a lie.

Sounds kind of wrong. Intense. Ominous. Even political? But it's remarkably fun and simple, requires no timers, plastic bits, scorecards or pencils, and it invites some of the very creativity which had bonded us in the first place.

To play this effectively requires some hilarious effort at vocal theatrics, and a convincing 'poker face', which some of us do too well. It can get tricky to remain straight-faced while uttering both diabolical lies and flimsy truths. The premise is to state three personal facts. One statement isn't true. Two are. Other players try to guess the lie. I went first to show how:

I love pears with honey.

My favourite colour is yellow.

I spent childhood summers by the Mississippi River.

Woah … tricky. Friend One imagined that yellow wasn't a colour to love, so that had to be a lie. Friend Two knew I liked fruit, so pears with honey sounded true. And they both recalled that I used to visit my great aunt in the States. Nonetheless, I stumped them, so I got to play again. And my lie was actually about pears. I don't like them much. If someone had guessed the lie, they'd go next. This game might sound boring, but it isn't, especially as it warms up and bonding accelerates:

I've painted in watercolour only once in eight years.

My favourite songbird is the hermit thrush.

My brother's middle name is Arthur.

Winner! Gagnant! I'd convinced both friends that Arthur was true!

We enjoyed this renewed chance to relax and interact. We learned and laughed just a little more. We continued to play for about an hour. What did we really know about each other? Well, we know more now. Fun fact.

Go ahead. Try it too. In the car. Camping. Lounging with corn chips on a cottage deck in the Haliburton Highlands. Watch it expand. Watch it get bolder and even sillier. Play with your child, sibling, parent, coworker, partner. There's bound to be discovery.

Life is short.

You only live once.

Live, laugh, love.

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Legion Events

Branch 441 Kinmount

Monday: Bid euchre 1 p.m., Cornhole 7 p.m. (upstairs)
Tuesday: Last Tuesday of the month-liver luncheon with one alternative 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Mixed darts 7:30 p.m. Canteen opens at 6 p.m.
Thursday: General meeting (3rd week) Members only 7:30 p.m.
Friday: Chair yoga 10 a.m. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. play at 6:45 p.m.
Saturday: Meat draw 5 p.m. Canteen opens at 3 p.m.
Sunday: Ladies Auxiliary meeting (members only) 3rd week at 2 p.m.
Special events: May 11 Mother's day breakfast $13.00/ person
Friday night BBQ
Hall rentals available at reasonable prices. Call 705-488-3462 or 705-928-7105. We welcome everyone to our events and we look forward to seeing you!

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge 1 p.m. Schofield Rm. Youth darts 6:30 to 8 p.m. Clubroom 10 to 18 years of age. All are welcome, no experience necessary
Tuesdays: League darts 7 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo 7 p.m. FirstWed of each month with jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend.
Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Five meat draw, five prizes each draw, first draw 4:30 p.m., last draw 6:30 p.m. Tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards. 50/50 Draw 5:40 p.m.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips, Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out:
705-286-4541. Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Branch 624 Wilberforce

Hours - Sunday: Special Events Only, Monday: 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday: Closed, Wednesday: 2 to 10 p.m., Thursday: 2 to 6 p.m., Friday: 2 to 11 p.m., Saturday: 2 to 9 p.m.
Monday July 28 - Darts, $5/player, 7 p.m.
Wednesday July 30 - Darts, $4/player, 2 p.m.
July 30 - Quick Supper, Menu changes weekly, $10, 5 to 6:30 p.m
July 30 - Horseshoes, $5/player, 7 p.m.
July 25 - Seniors 55+ Lunch, $17, Noon
July 25 - Fish & Chips, 5 to 8 p.m., $15 for 1 piece, $20 for 2 pieces
Saturday July 26 - Meat Draw, 3 p.m.
Call the Legion for more info 705-448-2221

Writing on the Senior Side

Hot seniors

GAIL STELTER
County Life Contributor

A Grade 3 student approaches his teacher's desk and asks, "Do you have a girlfriend?"

"Yes, I do."

"Is she hot?" (Yes, this is a true story)

***

At the local restaurant, the waiter asks, "What kind of wings would you like? Mild, medium or hot?"

***

"This is such a great story? Where did you get the idea?"

"It rose from my hot imagination."

***

"People can't stop talking about what is happening in that country."

"Yes, it is certainly a hot issue."

***

"Where is my present?"

" I hid it for you to find. Start looking, and I will tell you if you are hot or cold."

***

"I can't publish this. We could get sued. It is too hot to handle."

**

"I've got to get out of here. She's hot on my heels."

***

"Have you heard how fantastic the Blue Jays are playing? I hope they›re still just as hot when we get to the end of the season."

***

The word "hot" is used to describe our world in so many unique ways. What a power-packed little word. Today we are going to chat about "hot time summer in the city," in the country and the Highlands. Welcome to the heat. It is a heat wave, and it's extreme. Do you remember the summer heat of your childhood, when summer lasted so long and hot summer in the city was a way of life? No air conditioning, no backyard pool, and only occasionally did we get to go to the beach.

Nevertheless, the beach was often the first choice for our families. My earliest recollection was when I was four years old and my mom took me on the Long Branch Street Car to New Toronto. We walked behind some stores, and magically, the beach appeared. We played in the sand, sat in the water and pretended to swim. My mom didn't know how to swim, and was very cautious with me.

Another beach outing happened several times over my childhood years, and I smile when I think of it.

"Gates, the ferry boat whistle is going to blow."

"Okay, Mom, I'm ready. I won't be afraid."

But I was never ready. Every time that boat whistle blew, I jumped a foot in the air. Once the whistle was over, I loved the ride, and the beach at Centre Island was perfect.

Our family's favourite beach was Innisfil Beach on Lake Simcoe. This was a car trip, a picnic, and a day that lasted into the evening. We sang songs in the car, including *Irene Goodnight, The Tennessee Waltz, On Top of Old Smokey* and *Found a Peanut*. We took pictures, and that didn't happen often. The only childhood family picture I have of my mom, dad, brother and me was taken there. Perhaps that is why I love this memory.

Beaches were part of cottaging. We rented a cottage near Minden. I was 11 years old and I taught myself how to swim. I was embarrassed to be the only kid my age who didn't know how to swim. My great accomplishment was to be able to join the other kids on the floating dock.

We were the Boomer kids, and we were very independent. We were eager to brave the outdoor city pools. Sunnyside and Tenth Street pools were cold water right out of Lake Ontario. Sunnyside had a beach, but that cold water and the sometimes smell of dead fish made the beach fine for lying in the sun, but not for swimming. Sunnyside was the home of my bellyflops as I taught myself to dive. It took many attempts, but I finally did it. Success is sweet when you work hard for it.

And here we are now, living on the senior side, and experiencing a heat wave. After that never-ending winter, I welcome the hot summer, but it is easy for me, and those like me who have the advantages of air-conditioned homes, comfortable patios, shade trees and sun umbrellas. It is easy for me to sit on my deck and enjoy boating and swimming in the beautiful lakes of the Highlands. I worry about seniors who can not do this.

Too much heat is not safe for anyone, and it is even riskier for seniors. Why can extreme heat be more dangerous for older adults than for younger people? Hotter days can cause difficulty in the body's ability to regulate its temperature. This can be challenging for older adults who typically do not adjust as well as others to sudden temperature changes. Additionally, older adults are more likely to have chronic medical conditions that affect the body's response to temperature, and to take prescription medicines that alter the body's ability to control temperature or sweat.

Being overheated for too long or being exposed without protection to the sun can cause many health problems. It helps if we know what we are getting into and what we can do. Heat-related illnesses include the following:

Heat syncope is a sudden dizziness that can happen when you are active in hot weather. I take a heart medication called a beta blocker. As a result, I am more likely to feel faint.

Heat cramps are the painful tightening or spasms of muscles in your stomach, arms, or legs.

Heat edema is a swelling in your ankles and feet when you get hot. Put your legs up to help reduce swelling.

Heat rash is a skin irritation from heavy sweating. Keep the infected area dry, use powder to soothe the rash, and stay in cool areas.

Heat exhaustion is a warning that your body can no longer keep itself cool. You might feel thirsty, dizzy, weak, uncoordinated, and nauseated. You may sweat a lot. Your body temperature may stay normal, but your skin may feel cold and clammy.

Heat stroke is a medical emergency in which the body's temperature rises above 104°F. Signs of heat stroke are fainting, confusion or acting strangely, not sweating even when it's hot; dry, flushed skin; strong, rapid pulse; or a slow, weak pulse.

Sun exposure, also known as sunburn, is a sign of skin damage due to extreme or long exposure.

Take care during a heat wave and make sure you not only know what the heat-related illnesses are, but also how you can prevent or treat them. Enjoy everything that the hot summer in the Highlands brings. It is the perfect time to remember your blue mind: that surprising science that shows how being near, in, on or under water can make you healthier and feel happier. Keep safe and well.

On another note, the second drawer in my filing cabinet is acting up again. Did I already write about my childhood beaches and pools in a previous story? I know it's part of another story, but which one? I don't think it was a newspaper story, but I can't remember. Writing on the Senior Side is becoming more about writing the real senior me. I am smiling because what else can I do? Happy summer!

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The weaver of wisdom: Biljana Banchotova and her artistic journey

ADAM FRISK

County Life Staff

Biljana Banchotova poses for a photo inside her art studio in Tory Hill. /ADAM FRISK staff

Just steps from Highway 118 in Tory Hill lies a whimsical land of wisdom, spirituality and visionary art.

There, you will find a beautifully sculpted piece of property where butterflies float, frogs gather and Biljana Banchotova weaves her magic. With her hands often adorned with the vibrant pigments of her artistic endeavours, today she holds them clasped while meditating in her art studio.

Standing inside her Whirling Wisdom Art Creations studio, Banchotova meditates in preparation for her summer journey abroad. Beneath her moccasined feet lies an awe-inspiring "Creational Spiral at Celestial Heart Opening" floor mural, that radiates with a celestial glow reminiscent of the Milky Way.

"It's the natural pathway, it's life's path," Banchotova said. "I find it's always been a spiral, always been evolving, always been recreating and reinventing."

Banchotova explained her studio, which she built from the ground up, represents more than a physical structure; it's a dynamic sanctuary where the intricate threads of her journey converge into compelling visual and therapeutic experiences.

"Another way to attunement is through sound," the artist explained. "Sound is healing, sound is powerful and awakening."

Born in South Africa to a Macedonian family, Banchotova spent her formative years immersed in the vibrant traditions and close-knit community that defined her family's upbringing in the Balkans.

"My grandmother, we were shepherds, and she would weave carpets. My grandfather would harvest the wool and she would weave," Banchotova said. "She would say 'Now Biljana, you weave your own carpet, it'll look different, but it will be yours."

Dozens of paintings hang from the walls inside her studio, with each one showcasing Banchotova's astute connection to herself, the land and her spiritual journey.

When Banchotova arrived in Canada in 1996, she landed in Toronto and that's when her artistic and spiritual evolution accelerated. For more than a decade, she committed herself to engaging with the First Nations communities at the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto, immersing herself deeply in their sacred ceremonies, potent songs, and ancient philosophy.

"I do feel adopted in the community because I spent so many years at the centre, it's where I often took my son for outings and socials, ancestral readings," she said. "It's been 20 years I just realized that, healing with the First Nations and when I got my land here, the elders came and set up this teepee, it's when I really felt the healing with the people, the reconciliation."

She also raised her son in Ontario's capital city, where the 25 year old just graduated from law school.

"He's the other side of the rainbow," Banchotova said with a laugh. "And it's business law so wow."

Banchotova's artistic career spans more than two decades. At her studio in Tory Hill, she facilitates a diverse array of immersive workshops. Each workshop is structured to encourage participants to delve deeply into their consciousness, to reconnect with their inner wisdom.

In 2013, she gave birth to her daughter on the very land she carefully cultivates. Banchotova has since illustrated three children's books which allowed her to "bring her life work in and share it with the young ones."

"I'm very passionate about giving the tools to our youth and sharing the knowledge," she said.

If she isn't tending to her gardens or creating within her studio, you'll find Banchotova in an unsuspecting place.

"On a bus! I'm on a school bus," she said with a laugh. "The community really needed it, it was my daughter's bus and there were problems with a driver and the school, it became a big thing.

"So I got my B license. This winter I got my training and figured to myself 'I can do this!" she said.

And naturally, Banchotova encourages the students to engage with art, providing water markers to the children and allowing them to use the bus as a teaching board. She is also working with Wilberforce to help encourage students to get involved with the land and hopes to be able to work with the school board to develop a peace garden in the fall.

Banchotova dabbled in the Airbnb market before the COVID-19 pandemic, hosting visitors from several countries and across Canada. But since new regulations in the county, she had to delist her property for the time being.

While Banchotova embarks on her summer journey, the weaver of wisdom will likely return to her sanctuary on the whimsical land where she'll continue her artistic expression and therapeutic practice inside the Whirling Wisdom Art Creations.

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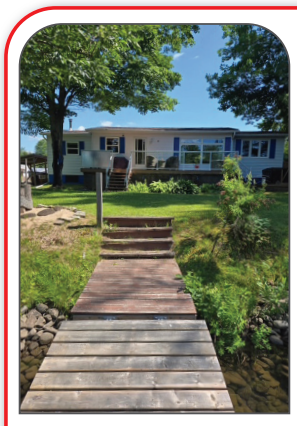

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146 Highland St., Box 360, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
Phone: 705 457-1037

Website: www.haliburtonecho.ca
Box 97, Minden K0M 2K0
Phone: 705 286-1288
Website: www.mindentimes.ca

Send your letters to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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The big light

WE HAVE one rule in our house.

Okay, maybe slightly more than one. We of course prioritize kindness and consideration and respect for all living things.

But there is one major rule that cannot be broken.

And that is: never, under any circumstances, do we turn on the big light.

Every house has them: the fluorescent lights that are drilled into the ceiling. And if there is one thing I have learned throughout this journey of adulthood, it's that there are two types of people in the world: big light people and little light people.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

And they usually marry one another.

My husband loves to make his presence known when entering a room by flicking on any light switch he sees, the entire room flooded with pale white lights that showcase wrinkles and dark spots normally absent to the naked eye.

For me, once dusk starts to settle in, I begin my rounds of the little lights. Strands of fairy lights, soft blossom lamps in hues of burnt orange and spring lilac. Hanging Edison bulbs underneath shades of mottled stained glass.

It's a process, and it takes a while, but I truly do think it's worth it. It creates a cozy atmosphere, a space we all feel safe. Little lights have a way of carving out tiny corners and crevices in a home, hidden amongst the shadows, where books can be read or songs can be sung.

The big light washes that all out.

I used to think I was alone on my journey for cultivating cozy corners based on little lights, but social media taught me differently.

In fact, there's a wealth of online forums dedicated to the debate of "the big light." While some find ease in the simplicity of one switch, others compared the experience of sitting under a big light to "interrogation lamps" or "takeout food heating lamps."

In a surprise to few, most people online sided with avoiding the big light at all costs. And not just for the basics of warm versus cold lights, but largely because of the mindfulness of catering to soft spots in the home. There's something special about flicking on a lamp that has a memory attached to it, turning on twinkly lights for your kids to curl up with an old movie.

Little lights add warmth, character, and dimension to a space. A space that can entirely change with the flick of a switch.

There's something about being in a hospital or airport corridor late at night. It's not just the sterility of the space that makes the white walls so glaring. It's the lights. It's lost on me why spaces where people are feeling the lowest of the lows or the highest of the highs do not incorporate any semblance of safety, of warmth, of comfort. Little lights go a long way.

Many have recently seen the Molou sign in town lit up once again. The long dormant sign above Needful Things in Haliburton was once a beacon to locals and visitors alike that there was a show in town. It was lit for decades, before the last bulb burnt out.

Until the new owner of the building decided to breathe light into the old sign once again. And suddenly, there's sparkle in downtown Haliburton. A little light that we had all been missing.

At the end of the day, my husband and I compromised on the big light versus little light debate.

We'll be celebrating our third anniversary this fall.

And we haven't turned the big light on once.

Top 10 reasons why Robin Hood only robbed from the rich

Perhaps the most interesting thing about Robin Hood, aside from his penchant for archery and wearing green tights, was the fact that he robbed from the rich to give to the poor.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

Most people take that to mean he had a social conscience and was a champion of the rich. That might have been true, but here are my top 10 other reasons you might want to consider.

1. Much more socially acceptable slogan.
2. Only way through Sherwood Forest was an expensive toll road.
3. Rob from the poor, give to the rich, had already been done.
4. Everyone was already robbing the middle class.
5. Social media of the day suggested that was a more popular choice.
6. Made no sense to rob from the poor to give to the poor.
7. Was young and impressionable, read Marx.
8. Following the advice of a financial adviser.
9. Wanted to flip a coin, poor folks never had one.
10. One good rich person and you could knock off at noon.

Invisible

Inchworm dangling from an invisible thread, from
the lowest branch of a tree,
a feeling of glee wriggling through me, as I rest on a
bench by the River,
peering over my shoulder at the squiggle of green,
wiggling in the Air, impressed by its ingenuity,
making its own way from the terrain of the tree to
perform acrobatics in the Air, appearing, as if out of
nowhere,
like this sudden gust of Wind that ripples across the
River, rumpling the clouds that float on its surface,
a raft of ducks wobbling on the wavelets, the head
of the male mallard, gleaming emerald green beneath
afternoon Sun,
that peeks through a bank of clouds, I wonder where
the inchworm is headed,
whether it's wriggling its way towards the ground,
to explore the forest of grass,
the blades, tall as trees, for the adventurer worm to
get lost in, becoming invisible for as long as it pleases,
before it inches its way back up towards the tree, to
blend in with all the fluttering leaves,
I watch it contort itself in the Air, inching down
towards the bench, maybe it, too, requires a rest,
as it wriggles onto the top edge of the bench, the
wood, worn by Wind, warmed by Sun,
maybe as old as the couple to whom the bench is
dedicated,
a gold-plated plaque, embossed with the great-
grandparents' names, affixed to the back of the bench,
remembered by their children and grandchildren
and the children that came after that,
how they must have loved to sit here by the River
and listen to Wind whoosh through the trees,
watch the clouds and ducks drift past, sitting in
silence, alone, together, maybe holding hands like
when they were young,
their lives, barely begun, watching the River flow,
I wonder whether time passes slower when you are
young
or if you are graced with the gift of growing old,
whether the hours and days inch along more slowly,
when you're not racing to always be getting somewhere, chasing the future that never gets caught,
just savouring each Breath, each day that you're
Alive, the invisible thread of Memory, tugging you
back to remember and reminisce,
I wonder whether this riverbank is where the great-
grandparents first kissed,
as I watch the inchworm wriggle its way along the
bench that once was a tree,
the maple, growing behind us, that once was a sapling, now, majestic and old, its roots, slithering like
veins, beneath the earth,
other maples springing up around it, and further
along the riverbank, willows, their branches drooping
towards the River to take a sip,
a family of trees, sprawling along the riverbank, as
the great-grandparents grew their own, branching out
over time,
that inches along slowly or rushes past, their legacy
lasting, solid and strong
as the trunk and branches of the maple from which
the inchworm appeared, wriggling its way past the
gold-plated plaque,
the bench where strangers sit every day, to rest and
watch the River flow and willows sway,
the names on the plaque, strangers to them, but
maybe the invisible threads of their own memories
pull them back to that time and place when they
were young, their lives, barely begun,
itching for the future to sweep them away, like the
rush of a spring River, only to return someday,
to rest on its bank and listen to it flow, its current,
that once surged past, slowing like their steps and
Breath,
in no hurry to go anywhere, only to feel the earth
and breathe the Air,
like the inchworm that wriggles up the hill of my
shoulder, I leave it be to explore this strange terrain,
Sky and trees and River remain, long after Wind no
longer whispers their name.

Sylvie Kalenda

The mural alongside the restaurant Juna in downtown Haliburton. Owner Terri Mathews Carl was seeking something 'retro' to add colour to the corridor, and artist Teddy Griffith brought the piece to life. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Mural magic; bringing colour to the county

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

A pop of colour, a dash of light: exactly what this community needs.

Teddy Griffith thought the same. And with a vision, a team, and several buckets of paint, he's brought that idea to light.

Griffith has nearly completed a large mural that spans the entirety of the Juna outdoor wall on Highland Street in the heart of Haliburton. Juna opened up in late spring, and owner Terri Mathews-Carl was adamantly looking for something to spruce up the alleyway alongside the building that leads into the backyard patio, adorned with fairy lights.

"I am obsessed with it," said Mathews-Carl of the artistic endeavour. "Teddy was so great. I was kind of all over the map with my ideas. I wasn't sure what I wanted, just knew what I didn't want. I wanted something retro and something that was true to Haliburton. He worked with that and made it perfect."

Some would recognize Griffith's name from his last mural, seen at the River Cone in Minden. He completed that piece last fall, which captures the essence of Freddie Mercury from the band Queen in a funky and fabulous display at the downtown Minden Hub.

So you'd think that Griffith is an established artist, but in reality, he's just diving into the arts world. "I'm a bookkeeper," laughed the Hal High graduate, who now attends school in Montreal for accounting. "But I always loved drawing and painting, so this is incredible. I've never done something like this."

Griffith credits his mom, Renee, with the opportunity to dive into his passion. "We're 'figure-outers'" he laughed, when referencing Renee, who owns Good as New Painting in Haliburton. "Any opportunity we see, we just grab onto it."

Renee and her company were tackling the River Cone when the owner of the space, Monica Scott, noted that she was looking for a mural for the back wall. "My mom knew I loved painting, and she went to the car and called me right away, asked me if I could do it."

And the rest is history.

With word spreading around the beauty and intricacy of the River Cone mural, it was only natural for Mathews-Carl to reach out when she was seeking an artist. "I'd love to see more murals by Teddy all over the county," she said.

Griffith mocked up a vision for Juna based on descriptive words from Mathews-Carl, and then went to work. "I usually draw up a concept, and then take a picture of the surface and overlay that picture," he said. "Then, I use reference points to free-hand on the wall."

The mural has a retro yellow background, with a family on water skis riding along vintage wispy waves. What was once a plain white wall is now a destination unto itself.

The mural took four full days to complete. "It was kind of intimidating at first," said Griffith, noting the size and span of the Juna wall, "but it totally came down to the staff at Good as New Painting. It would not have been possible without the staff."

The crew worked from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. for those four days straight. And while it's nearly complete, there are a few minor details Griffith and his team intend to return to at the end of the month. "It's 95 per cent finished and 100 per cent amazing," laughed Mathews-Carl.

As for Griffith, this second mural signifies much more than paint on a wall. "I always wondered what it would be like to break into the industry," he said. "And now I know that maybe this is an option for me, maybe it's more than just a hobby, and I hope it encourages other artists to feel the same way."

A mural of Queen's leading legend, Freddie Mercury, adorns the side of the Minden River Cone. This was the first mural Griffith tackled, and put his name out into the community as a mural artist. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Naturally Yours

Japanese knotweed / submitted by Rick Whitteker

Goutweed

Unwanted guests

THERE IS a much more insidious kind of extinction: the extinction of ecological interactions.

With over 400 invasive species in Ontario, the impact of these unwanted guests is substantial.

Considered to be one of Canada's greatest threats to biodiversity, these species often arrive accidentally and with no natural predators. This results these species killing, crowding out and significantly altering natural ecosystems.

RICK WHITTEKER
Naturally Yours

As part of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust's (HHLT) mandate to support land stewardship, the HHLT offers education workshops geared to private landowner who participate in the Partners in Conservation program. To make the workshop manageable, the focus was on the common invasive plants of Haliburton County. Tapping into the expertise of Monica Liedtke, the terrestrial invasive plant coordinator for the Invasive Species Centre, Monica's presentation built on our invasive plant webinars offered last fall.

In her introductory slide show, Monica wanted to first define the concept of invasive. We are surrounded by non-native plants, in our gardens, parks other public spaces. Non-native does not mean invasive. However, like unwanted guests, non-native plants overstay their welcome. A plant is considered invasive if they have significant detrimental ecological, economic and social impacts.

After Monica's slide presentation, the group transitioned to vehicles where we travelled to explore different sites where invasive plants were flourishing, starting with a large patch of Japanese knotweed on Bobcaygeon Road in Minden. An astounding two plus meters high in places, this plant has taken over an area just south of the CIBC.

Japanese knotweed is bamboo-like plant which grows one to five meters high in dense clusters.

What makes Japanese knotweed invasive? Once established, it is very expensive to control. Although the above ground plant can crowd out all native plants, it is the underground rhizomes that are the most concerning. Growing up to 20 centimeters thick, this hidden root network has been known to crack through weakened pavement and building foundations. Japanese knotweed can take over walking trails, clog waterways, outcompete native species and degrade natural ecosystems.

Our next stop was south of Minden on the Gull River, where we explored three groundcover garden escapees: periwinkle, goutweed and lily of the valley. Monica fielded lots of questions about these common garden plants and their invasive nature. These plants can be contained to well designed gardens, however, environmental factors beyond the homeowner's control can result in uncontrolled spread. Distribution of seeds via bird droppings, animal movement, seeds transported in footwear and vehicle tires can relocate these plants to places where they joyously spread with no natural barriers or controls. Without the constraints of turf grass or garden edging, these plants spread quickly even deep into the shaded forest understory, crowding out native ephemeral wildflowers like trilliums and trout lilies and other native plants. Furthermore, our pollinators have evolved with native flowers and, therefore, suffer when our native wildflowers are crowded out.

Periwinkle

The workshop group was also introduced to dog strangling vine, a highly invasive plant with spreading and climbing tendencies. They are allelopathic meaning this plant secretes biochemicals that suppress the germination, growth and survival of other nearby plants, thereby reducing competition. Dog strangling vine is in the milkweed family which can result in some monarch butterflies laying eggs on their leaves. The monarch caterpillars will not survive as dog strangling vine does not provide the necessary food provided by the monarch's typical host plant, the common milkweed.

The workshop did not have time to discuss what is likely the most common invasive plant in Haliburton County: invasive phragmites. This tall, attractive plant is common along roadsides in ditches, crowding out native plants like broad-leafed cattail along wetland edges. Invasive phragmites (there are native phragmites) grow so densely, they inhibit wildlife movement and provide minimal ecological benefit when compared to a diverse, native plant habitat.

Invasive plant control and eradication is not impossible especially if the plants are detected early. The best method of controlling invasive plants is manually digging them out. Other control methods include mowing, clipping, pulling and tarping depending on the species, the size of the affected area and the sensitivity of the location.

Arguably the easiest control method is also the most toxic to the environment. The herbicide *Roundup* has been proven effective for large, uniformed stands of invasive plants, effectively using a combination of ingredients, including glyphosate. The nonselective nature of glyphosate means that it will kill most broadleaf plants and grasses. *Roundup* can also pose health hazards to wildlife and people who come in contact with this herbicide.

With all the challenges of dealing with these tenacious plants, Monica reinforced the effort to control and eradicate them is worth it in the end. To see the return of native plants to an area infested by invasives can lead to a wonderful sense of accomplishment. Nature can use the support during this time of significant ecological impacts.

For more information on all kinds of invasive species, visit the Invasive Species Centre website at www.invasivespeciescentre.ca

Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre presents 100 artists and artisans in Head Lake Park, Haliburton Village, July 25, 26, 27.

Scan QR for Daily Schedule

HALIBURTON ART & CRAFT FESTIVAL

FRI JULY 25 12-5
SAT JULY 26 10-5
SUN JULY 27 10-4

Head Lake Park, Haliburton
next to Rails End Gallery
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- Kettle Corn Canada

2025 Artists and Artisans | www.railsendgallery.com for daily events

108 mala project
20 Jewellery
58 Ford Photography
A Twist of Metal
ALAN DHINGRA STUDIO 234
Alison Sawatzky Art
Allers Atelier
Atelier L'Éclisse
Baskk
beadKRap
Besom
Blake Richardson - EarthArt
Blakely Ceramics
Brabant Design Studio
bumblebee jewelry
Burnin' Beads by Kira
C.M. Duffy
Carla's Fine Jewellery
Cori Lee Marvin - Watercolours
Crosswind Creations Inc.
Cutthroat Shaving Company
DASH OF LOVE
David Kerr Artist
Deep Breath Woodcraft
DejaVu Textiles
Designs in Elegance
Dirty Leather
dog gone gear
Earth Songs Studio
Elena Dinissuk
Fernando's Fine Art Studio
Flux Glass Co
Funky Buddha Collection
Garden Art by Sandy
Garrett Gilbart
Gentle Knight Designs
Glass Wood Resin
Haliburton Clothing Co.
Handley Acres Metal Creations
Heritage Felt
ING Studios - Isabel Neveu-Geene
Ivy Cottage Fusion Arts
JACKIE WARMELINK POTTER
Jamie MacLean Fine Art
Jane Jacobs Textiles
Janice Moorhead
Jeelee Joolery
Jonathan Sau Photography
Julia Masci Textiles
Keefer Street Studio.
KNV Studios
Kristensen & Smith
Kyla Vitek Jewellery
Lady Glass
Lilac Glass
Lili's Creations
Living Edge Design Co
Lynn Cragg Fine Art
LYNorthey, Textile Artist
Marleen Campbell by Design
Marmalade Jewellery
Masq Leather
Matsu Jewellery Studio
Michaud Toys
Michele rose
Michelle Bosveld Glass
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Murray Fox Pottery
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OliO StudiO
Paradigm Designs
R.W. Studios
Rachel Joy Jewellery
Rare Olive
Red Butt Ceramics
Reddick Studio Porcelain
Reiners Originals
Richard Fisher Pottery
Ron Leach Soapstone
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Ruffle Love
Sailorgirl Jewelry
Sanctuary Innerwear
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Seeded Memories
Silk'n Wilkin Originals
Silver Inclusive
Springwater Naturals
Stevens Pottery
Tamarack Glass
Ten Thousand Studio
The Funky Clothesline
The Hot Shop by Artech Studios
The Reclaimed Butterfly
The Wild Wood
Tom Luke Designs
Turn Write Pens by Rob

all Festival proceeds are in support of programming at our community art gallery

RAILS END GALLERY & ARTS CENTRE

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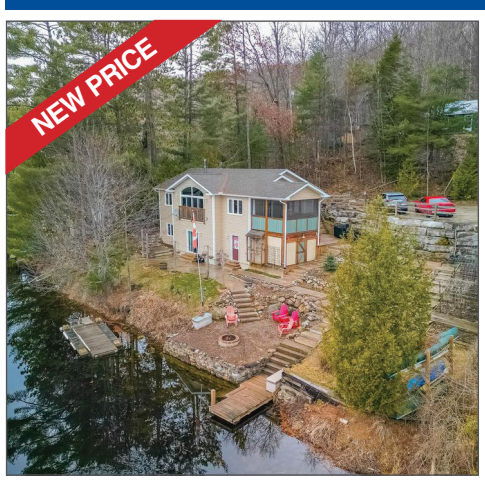

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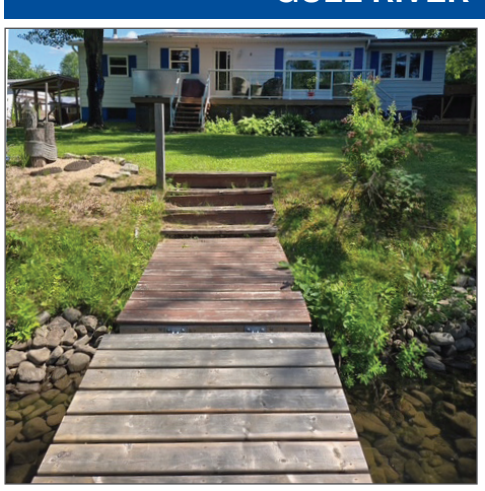

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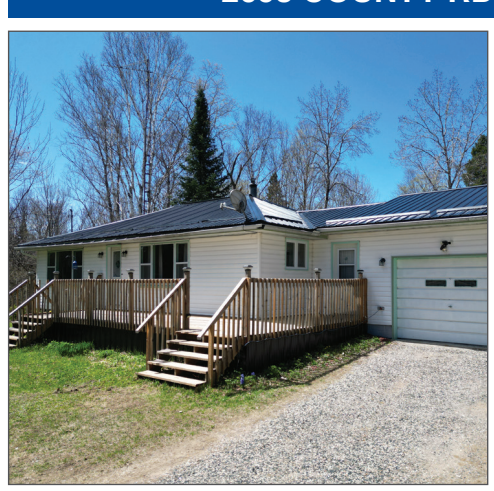

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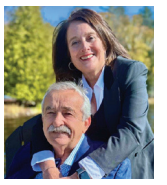

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Take a kid fishing, lose weight

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

FORGET ABOUT drastically reducing your portions, watching your calorie intake, consuming Ozempic or embarking upon a torturous exercise routine – if you really want to lose weight and fit into those old summer swimsuits, just take a kid fishing.

As always, however, before you embark upon such a rigorous program, it's best to consult with your physician.

As in any exercise program, there are levels of commitment depending on your goals. The general formula goes something like this though: You lose one pound of weight per hour of fishing per kid. Add 50 per cent if your kids get bored easily, and are not adept at unhooking fish or changing worms. Or, if God forbid, they want to cast a lot – which means you'll also get a full cardio workout ducking worm hooks and bobbers. Also, double that, if one of them is a jumper – you know, the kind that thinks, "I should test this personal floatation device (and grandpa's heart) to see if they really work.

My two grandkids – aged nine and four – will be visiting soon and this should mean I will look like a new man by the end of their visit. In fact, if my calculations are correct, I suspect I will come out the other side weighing approximately 38 pounds and with a new nickname such as Slim or Strawman. But that's only if we go fishing once.

Should we go fishing a second time, I will probably start a business in which I become "The Human Slim Jim" and help people get into their locked cars.

This, of course, will be short-lived, as I will gain all the weight back in three visits to my favourite fast-food place.

Those who think this is far-fetched have probably never had the pleasure of fishing with kids (bless your hearts.) So permit me to detail some of the process.

First, you get up three hours earlier than the kids and look in the mirror so you can say kind words like, "See you next week, old friend," and wave goodbye to your waistline.

Then you take 400 trips to the vehicle, packing in all the gear, coolers, toys, anchors, cushions, blankets, flare guns, sunscreen, bug repellent, towels, bouncy castles, plastic swords, and so forth.

By the time this is done, you are warmed up for the main event.

After a short but arduous drive to the lake, you then launch a boat under the guidance of a nine-year-old boy whose favourite movie is *The Fast and the Furious.*

After that, you launch, get out, and are almost ready to relax when your sweet youngest grandchild will say, "Snacks."

That's when you realize you left your cooler in the vehicle. Less than an hour later (now you must find a washroom for them both) you are on the water.

Thus begins a flurry of activity, which people on the shoreline naturally assume is a mixed martial arts tag team event. It is, in fact, you continually doing reps of baiting hooks and then untangling them from aquatic weeds, trees, docks, or your clothing.

This continues for 12 minutes – at which time, the idea of jumping into the water takes hold. Luckily, the life jackets work.

I could go on, but I'm trying to avoid the flashbacks.

Suffice it to say, in the end, you catch one tiny rock bass named "Harold" who actually ends up feeling sorry for you.

I think you get the idea.

Anyhow, call me next week if you get locked out of your car. My rates will be reasonable.

19th ANNUAL Haliburton County
TOUR DE FOREST
SUMMER STUDIO TOUR

TREASURE HUNT

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20 Artists 11 Studios August 2nd - 3rd 2025 • 10 am - 4pm

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 1ST
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Live music by **Gord Kidd.**
Face Painting, games and more!

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Pride in the Highlands CanoeFM
Haliburton Highlands Museum

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Free Banana Splits @ 8pm
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1085 GRACE ROAD, MINDEN

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PROPERTY HIGHLIGHTS

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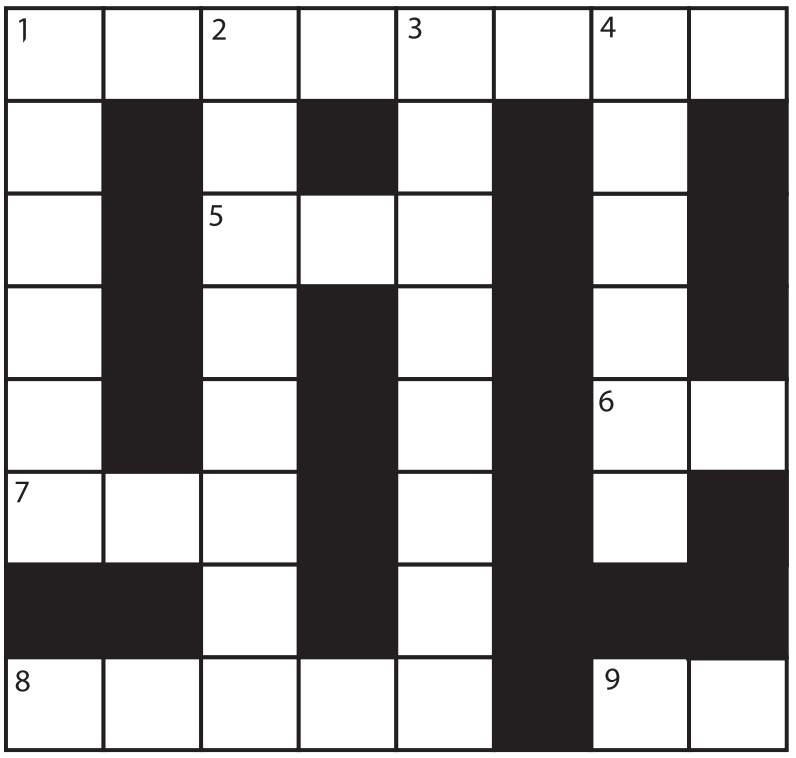
kids' corner

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS
1. Figure out the route
5. Area of land
6. "City of Angels" (abbr.)
7. Breakfast food
8. Green areas used for recreation
9. Opposite of "yes"

DOWN
1. Plants, animals and the landscape
2. Person who lives in a village
3. Vacations, trips
4. Pathways to hike

Answers:
Across
1. Navigate 5. Lot 6. LA 7. Egg 8. Parks 9. No
Down
1. Nature 2. Villager 3. Getaways 4. Trails

CANADA MONTH HISTORY

1908

The Royal Canadian Mint Opens. The Mint produces all of Canada's circulation coins.

NEW WORD

FUND

money for a particular purpose, like conservation

Animal FACT

When enjoying parks, it is important to avoid close encounters with these.

Answer: Wild animals

"How they say that in..."

English: Nature
Spanish: Naturaleza
Italian: Natura
French: Nature
German: Natur

Did You KNOW?

"Forest bathing" started in Japan and is the process of spending time in nature. There is growing research to show that it promotes overall health.

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: RV

SIRCHlight

Creating connection and resilience – together

We all carry quiet stories. Some are about struggle – loss, loneliness, not quite making ends meet. Others are about moments that surprise us with goodness: a neighbour taking your garbage to the landfill, a stranger offering a warm smile, a child's laughter echoing across the snow.

This column is for those stories.

It's for you, and the everyday ways you show up for others – whether anyone notices or not. It's about the fabric of our community, stitched together from thousands of small acts of kindness, courage, and care. And it's about how we can keep weaving those threads stronger.

You might already know the name SIRCH, or maybe this is your first time hearing about us. Either way, this isn't just about an organization. It's about all of us – living, working, raising kids, caring for parents, struggling, celebrating – in a place that is beautiful, yes, but also deeply human and sometimes hard.

SIRCH stands for Supportive Initiative for Residents in the County of Haliburton, more commonly known as SIRCH Community Services. Since 1989, we've been quietly responding to real needs in our community – things like food insecurity, poverty, grief, and isolation. We've done it by listening first, then creating practical, local solutions: free meal programs, peer support, skills training, low cost thrifted items, places to connect, and so much more.

But we don't do it alone. Every success we've had has been made possible by people like you – participants, donors, volunteers, partners, businesses, shoppers, and behind-the-scenes champions. Whether you've shared your time, your voice, your story, or your support, you're part of the ripple.

This column is one small way we give back. Twice a month, we'll share reflections, stories, and conversations – not to promote ourselves, but to remind you of what's possible when we work together. We'll talk about resilience, but not in the buzzword sense. We'll talk about what it really looks like – being vulnerable, reaching out, trying again, or lifting someone else even when your own load is heavy.

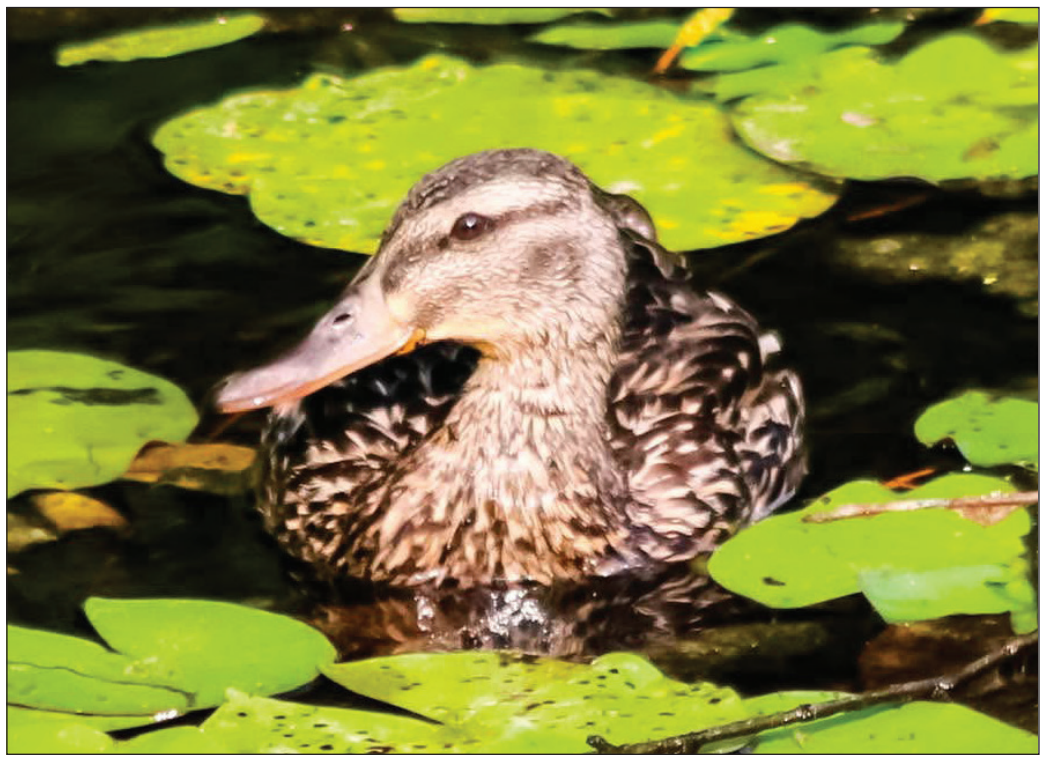
You might learn something new about SIRCH along the way. You may also learn more about issues that affect many of us – like not enough money to cover expenses, the anxiety and judgements we put on ourselves, or the weight of isolation – and discover ways to help, or ways to heal.

More than anything, we hope these words help you feel seen. That you'll think, "I've felt that," or "That's me," or maybe just, "I needed that today." And maybe you'll pass that feeling on. One small kindness. One brave conversation. One moment of grace.

We're a community. We're your community.

And we hope you'll join us here again in two weeks.

Submitted by SIRCH Community Services



Duck by Jill Moulton

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The Haliburton County ECHO

The Times MINDEN ONTARIO

Nature in your backyard

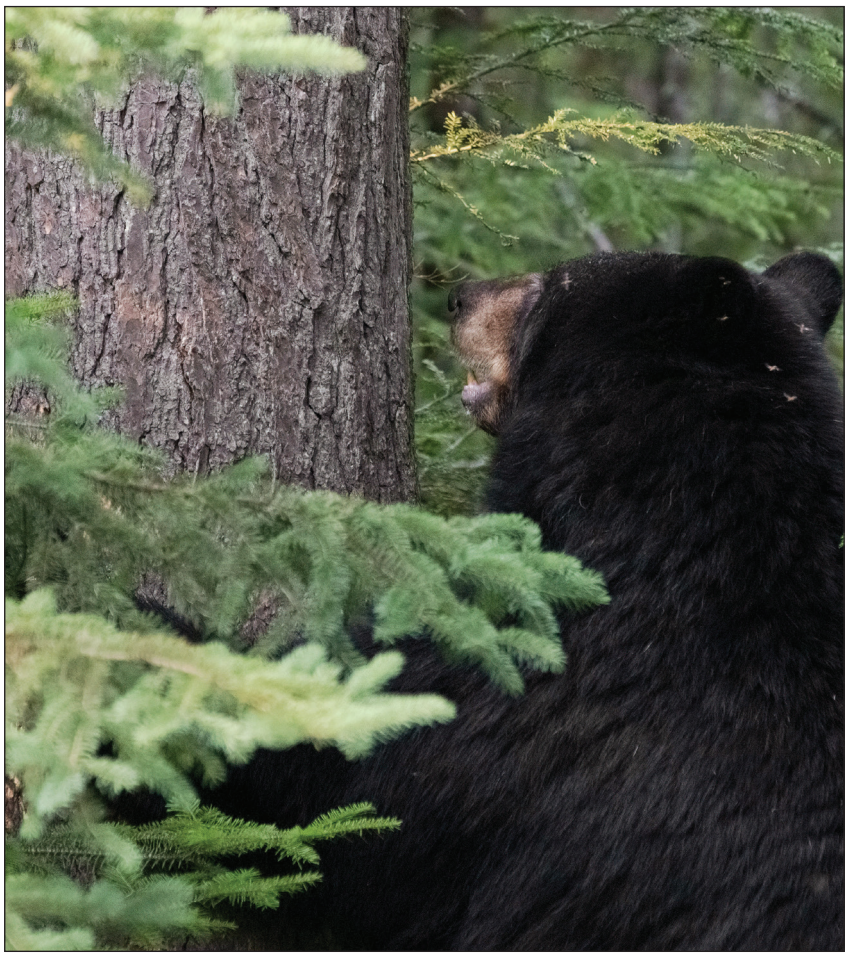
County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

American Bittern on Lake Kashagawigamog by Jamie Maxwell

Bullfrog by Randy Moratz

Dark Lake at sunrise by Vivien Mausz

Raccoon by Gord Kinzie



Momma bear by Tammy Nash

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Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Haliburton Highlands Time Travellers Cruise Night
When: Thursday, July 24
Kawartha Dairy, Minden 5:30 p.m. to dusk

Highlands Time Travellers Cruise Night
When: Thursday, July 31
Where: Haliburton Library Parking lot, 5:30 p.m. to dusk

Highlands Time Travellers Special Cruise Night
When: Tuesday, July 29
Where: Eagle Lake Country Market

The Dirt on Soap and Home Remedies
When: Aug. 5, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Centre,
55 Parkside St., Minden.
Join the Minden & District Horticultural Society at the Minden Community Centre. We will get "The Dirt on Soap and Home Remedies" from guest speaker MJ Pilgrim, followed by the monthly society meeting. New members welcome!

Youth Members Program
When: August 5, 4 to 5 p.m.
Kids aged 6 years or older who want to learn about gardening are welcome to join the Horticultural Society Youth Members Program. Email for details: minden.jr.hort.club@gmail.com

Anniversary Celebration Corn Roast
When: Friday August 15, 6 p..m
Where: Red Cross Outpost Historic House,
2314 Loop Rd, Wilberforce
Come and join us for corn, hot dogs, cake and ice cream. Quilt raffle draw at 7:45 PM. Contact: Barb Schofield, 705-448-2598, wilberforcebarb@yahoo.ca

Recurring events

Book Nook Hours
When: 1st, 3rd Tuesday of the month - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
Choose from a variety of gently read books: thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, children and youth selections, Canadian authors, fiction, science fiction/ fantasy, sports, spiritual and other non-fiction books. Bring a reusable bag. Payment is by cash donation. All money raised supports library enhancements and programmes for all libraries in the county.

Bridge for Seniors
When: Mondays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Schofield Room
All welcome.

Haliburton Legion Walking Group
When: Mondays at 9 to 10 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
A safe walking environment. Lead by an Occupational therapist.

Free Balanced Fitness, Active Social Senior Classes
When: Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All seniors are welcome. Group led by Registered Recreation Therapist

Free Balanced Fitness, Active Social Senior Classes
When: Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All seniors are welcome. Group led by Registered Recreation Therapist

Bid Euchre
When: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All welcome!

Seniors Chair Exercises
When: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church,
617 Mountain Street
Please join us for safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

Cards/Euchre/Cribbage
When: Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.
Where: St. George's Church
617 Mountain Street
Lakeside Church Service
When: Sunday at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Where: 9 Park Street, Haliburton.
Whoever you are, wherever you've been, you are welcome here.

Weekly Meat Rolls
When: Every Saturday, 3 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 and 35
Join us for our weekly meat draw. Five spins for $10. First four rounds are for highest and lowest score with two winners per round. Last round is for a prepare-it-yourself dinner for two. Additional spins for this round are available for $2 each. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

SALC: Games and Cards
When: Saturdays from 2:30 to 5 p.m. (July 26)
Where: Royal Canadian Legion,
1007 Burleigh Road, Wilberforce
Admission: Pay-What-You-Can/By Donation. Meet up with friends, bring a neighbour, or chat with someone new at board game events happening throughout the County as part of the Seniors Active Living Centre program. Games are available or bring your own. No experience necessary. Simply drop in! For more information visit haliburtoncounty.ca/SALC. 55+

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Inside The Echo

Efforts honoured...see page 10

A unique camp...see page 17

Kidney patients helped...see page 19

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO

AND MINDEN RECORDER

Vol. 104 No. 39 Wednesday July 9, 1986 'Voice of the Highlands' 28 pages 40 cents

Board negotiators stall on no vote

Negotiating committees from the Haliburton County board of education and its secondary school teachers will take a two month break in contract talks after teachers rejected a settlement that had been worked out between the two sides.

"We came to a concensus at the bargaining table" and took the offer back recommending acceptance, said teacher negotiating committee chairman Dave Mowat. "But staff rejected the offer."

"We've stopped bargaining until September" board salary committee chairman Len Salvatori said.

While details of the proposed settlement worked out between the two sides will not be released, Mowat said teachers feel any new contract should include salary adjustments that at least equal increases in the cost of living. "And there are some other, non monetary issues that are sticky points".

Despite the teachers' decision not to accept the contract proposal, they gave a vote of confidence to Mowat and the other members of this committee. "We've been instructed to go back and bargain" Mowat said.

"I feel that we bargained well" Mowat said, but the majority of the staff indicated "we want you to bargain a little harder".

Salvatori said that to his knowledge "we've never really been in this situation before", with an apparent settlement rejected by one side.

"We bargained hard and we felt good about it" he said. Asked about the chances that the contentious issues can be resolved readily, he acknowledged that "the board is slightly flexible in some areas".

An impasse on an earlier contract was resolved after a provincial fact-finder was appointed, but neither side expects that to happen this time.

"As long as we're bargaining in good faith, and bargaining hasn't come to a standstill, then a fact finder isn't necessary", Mowat said.

The board earlier reached a settlement with its elementary teachers, but details have not yet been released.

Minister of Tourism and MPP for Victoria-Haliburton, John Eakins, left, presents awards to the winners of the "How Canada can help promote world peace" essay contest at the West Guilford Canada Day party. The winners are Jamie Teatro, Grade 6, Jennifer Scheffee, Grade 4, and Diane Craigmyle, Grade 3. Organizer Carol Stamp looks on.

New program set to praise good drivers

In a bid to reduce traffic accidents in Haliburton County this summer, the local OPP detachment has come up with a program to reward courteous drivers. Starting today--July 9--and for the next eight weeks, area motorists are being asked to call the Minden detachment and report acts of courtesy on the road. Each week, one name will be selected from all those submitted and a prize will be awarded. Names of the winners will be announced each week for the rest of the summer on the front page of the Echo.

Courteous driving is promoted

Corporal Art Goard said the idea was conceived by Minden detachment staff in response to accident prevention initiatives by police across the province.

"We examined our accident statistics and tried to learn the cause of the accidents" Cpl. Goard siad. " 'Speed too fast' was the major cause" of the 480 accidents reported in Haliburton County last year, he said. "One of the benefits of the (courteous driver) program is not only awarding the prizes" but also the hope that "it will cause a greater awareness of driving safety" Cpl. Goard said. "And if that does happen, then the program is a success".

Drivers who want to report courteous acts should note the license number of the deserving person and phone it in to the Minden detachment at 286-1431 Officers on patrol also will watch for appropriate acts of courtesy and enter those individuals in the weekly contest.

Financial support for the program had come from the Minden Kinsmen, Lins and Rotary Clubs, as well as the Rotary Club of Haliburton. While prizes have not yet been selected, they could include a high quality road atlas and other driving accessories.

Watch for the name of the first recipient of the courteous driver of the week award in next week's Echo.

Blood donors needed

Organizers of the blood donor clinic scheduled for Tuesday July 22 from 2 to 8:30 p.m. at the Legion Hall in Haliburton are expecting 300 people to attend. The clinic is the first one held in Haliburton for more than ten years and has been widely publicized by the organizers.

Posters are in store and office windows in Wilberforce, Harcourt, Minden and Haliburton. Two huge banners have been hung across highway 121 as it enters and leaves Haliburton. Organizer Jim Holmes will purchase TV and radio time during the week before the clinic.

The Red Cross encourages everyone from 17 to 66 years old to come to the clinic. Those who plan to make the almost one litre donation should be prepared for the day.

Potential donors may not have taken medication within the three days before giving blood. Those who have a cold, sore throat or the flu in the last seven days before donation day cannot give blood. All donors must weigh at least 100 pounds. All donors will be asked a series of questions before blood is taken. Questions concern surgery, ear piercing, blood pressure and medical history.

It takes less than one hour to make a donation. Some people will fill the blood bag quicker than others, but all must rest lying down and then sitting before leaving the clinic. Donors should have had a meal before giving blood.

The blood collected at the clinic will be sent to the Red Cross central depository and then distributed. A single donation can provide up to four treatments for patients.

Guilford celebrates Canada Day

Fireworks and family fun, with a little bit of flag waving patriotism included for good measure, made West Guilford's Canada Day celebrations an unqualified success last Tuesday. The event has become a tradition over the past few years, enjoyed by large numbers of local families as well as area cottagers.

A special guest at this year's festivities was provincial tourism minister John Eakins, who presided at the opening ceremonies and presented framed copies to the school essay contest winners. This year's topic was 'How Canada can help promote world peace'. The winning entries were submitted by Diane Craigmyle, a Grade 3 student; Jennifer Scheffee, a Grade 4 student; and Jamie Teatro, in Grade 6. As well as their framed essays, the youngsters also will have a chance to visit the provincial legislature this fall as Eakin's guests.

There was an unusual and momentarily startling twist at the ceremonies as the flag was being raised by West Guilford youngsters Krista Magee and Dan Chumbley. The loud bang of a single firecracker turned eyes skyward, where a Canadian flag that had been shot into the air by the 'craker' drifted slowly down beneath a tiny parachute.

The night before, the queen of the celebration had been chosen at a teen dance. The honour went to Jennifer Wallace, who along with runners up Donna Upton and Shannon Sisson, was on hand Tuesday to present awards to some of the top finishers in the Pine Lake swim.

Fastest finishers in the Green Lake run, which had begun earlier, crossed the finish line just as the opening ceremonies got underway. First to complete the approximately 10 kilometre distance was Lorne White in a time of 37 minutes, 44 seconds. Second place went to Gary Brohman of Haliburton, followed by Robin Lerpiniere of Fenelon Falls.

An early Canadian costume contest was a new addition to this year's festivities. The winner was Nila Reynolds, with second place going to Jean

Please turn to Page 3

Wendy Bateman, centre with headband, is one of the convenors of this year's Summer Exhibition and Sale. The sale continues in the gymnasium of the Haliburton Elementary School until July 19. Special guest Ankaret Dean, craftsperson and writer, officially opened the show Thursday night. The show is sponsored by the Guild of Fine Arts.

The summer sale begins:

Art is a magical influence, audience is told

The twenty second annual Summer Exhibition and Sale sponsored by the Guild of Fine Arts was opened by Guild chairman Joan Hoad and special guest Ankaret Dean, craftsperson and publisher of the Basketry Express, Thursday night.

Hoad introduced a new award from the Eagle Lake Women for best new artist or craftsperson, and a first-time prize from Ron Lawrence, wildlife author, for "Celebration of Nature" in any art form. A "Best in the Show" award, given in the name of Thilde Nevitt, is the new first prize. All awards were presented on Friday night.

In her opening remarks Hoad called art a "Magical influence" on life. "Art--whether it be music, poetry, visual art or the hand-crafted object--feeds the soul and human life would be drab without its Magical Influence," she said.

"Many, many thanks are due to the more than 250 volunteers from this small community who help to prepare the Exhibition." Hoad said. "We are lucky to have Marie Wallace and Wendy Bateman as our convenors.

"Our thanks to Len Pizzey, of the Haliburton County Echo, for his photographs, the Board of Education and principal Doug Devolin for use of the building, and the curator of the Rails' End Gallery, Chris Lynd, for her assistance.

"The arts and crafts and general setting show how well they have all succeeded and your enjoyment will be our thanks for the effort," Hoad said.

The Exhibition and Sale was officially opened by Ankaret Dean. Hoad called Dean a "woman extraordinaire" for her work as a craftsperson specializing in woven garments and basket-making, her teaching as an instructor and lecturer, and her writing as a free-lancer, publisher and columnist for the Toronto Star.

"We have watched the craft scene grow, develop, and perhaps I could say mature, during the years," Dean said. "We have moved from the heady world of flower children, embroidered jeans and fringes to a more stable craft environment.

"Crafts have changed; we now

Please turn to Page 6

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2 2

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2 3

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MLS X12137708
1 3

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Open House
July 26, 12-2pm
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1 2

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1 2

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1 3

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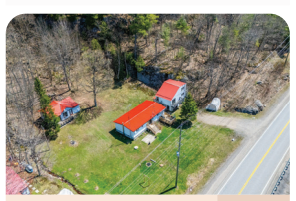
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Brokerage - independently owned and operated